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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/686,959

10/15/2003

W. Steven Conner

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7590

05/11/2006

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EXAMINER

YANG, CLARA I

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2612

DATE MAILED: 05/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/686,959

Applicant(s)

CONNER ET AL.

Examiner

Clara Yang

Art Unit

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 March 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 18-27 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed on 27 March 2006 with respect to claims 1-17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 2, and 4-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Beasley et al. (US 2002/0177460).

Referring to claim 1, Beasley teaches a Pocket Mobility Network (PMN) 200, as shown in Figs. 2A and 2B, having a plurality of base station units (BSUs), which are access points, connected to the Internet or wide area network (WAN) 202 via edge router 204 and switches 206 (see Sections [0049] and [0060]). Per Beasley, each BSU acts as a bridge between a wired local area network (LAN) that includes the BSUs, switches 206, and router 204, and the wireless links (e.g., wireless links 103 and 212) to mobile units (MUs) (see Section [0060]). Beasley's PMN 200 comprises BSU 120, which includes a plurality of components: (a) several wireless base transceiver stations (BTSS) or Bluetooth™ radio frequency (RF) modules that transmit information to and receive information from MUs over a wireless channel (see Sections [0052],

[0053], [0055], [0056], and [0061]); (b) an antenna coupled to the BTSs that enables each BTS to transmit and receive signals in the 2.4 GHz spectrum per Bluetooth™ specifications (see Sections [0045], [0053], [0055], [0056], and [0116]); (c) a wireline transceiver to transmit and receive information over a wired LAN (i.e., wireline network) (see Sections [0057], [0060], [0117], [0198], and [0215]); and (d) a microprocessor coupled to the BTSs and the wireline transceiver (see Section [0056]), wherein the PMN (1) sends and receives data over the Bluetooth™ network (see Section [0062]), (2) sends and receives control messages over the wired LAN to coordinate handoffs (i.e., one or more aspects of communication over the Bluetooth™ network) (see Sections [0051], [0063], [0116], [0117], and [0228]-[0232]), and (3) receives a common timing signal from the wired LAN (see Sections [0215], [0218], and [0221]-[0223]).

Regarding claim 2, Beasley discloses that a BSU is an access point (see Section [0049]).

Regarding claim 4, Beasley teaches that the BSUs communicate control message over the wired LAN to exchange information relating to clock synchronization (see Sections [0199], [0201], and [0228]).

Regarding claim 5, each of Beasley's wireline transceivers is a power line transceiver that transmits and receives a continuous synchronization signal over a power line network (see Section [0215]). Because BSUs can also receive power over an Ethernet connection (see Sections [0218] and [0221]), the Ethernet network functions as a power line network, and each BSU's wireline transceiver is a power line transceiver in that alternative implementation.

Referring to claim 6, as explained in the previous rejections of claims 1 and 5, Beasley teaches all the limitations of the claim.

Regarding claim 7, as explained in the previous rejection of claim 4, Beasley teaches all the limitations of the claim.

Regarding claim 8, as explained in the previous rejection of claim 1, Beasley's BSU includes an antenna coupled to the BTSs (see Sections [0056] and [0061]).

Referring to claims 9, 11, and 14, as explained in the previous rejection of claim 1, Beasley's PMN 200 includes (a) a wired LAN (i.e., a wireline network) (see Sections [0060] and [0218]) and (b) a plurality of BSUs (i.e., wireless nodes), wherein each BSU has (1) a plurality of BTSs for communicating data with MUs (i.e., other wireless nodes) over a Bluetooth™ channel (i.e., a wireless channel) and (2) a wireline transceiver for communicating control messages with other BSUs over the wired LAN to coordinate handoffs and synchronization (i.e., one or more aspects of the communication of data over the Bluetooth™ network) and for receiving a common timing signal from the wire LAN (see Sections [0051]-[0053], [0055]-[0057], [0060]-[0063], [0116], [0117], [0198], [0215], [0218], [0221]-[0223], and [0228]-[0232]).

Regarding claims 10 and 12, as explained in the previous rejection of claim 5, Beasley teaches BSUs can transmit and receive a continuous synchronization signal over a power line (see Section [0215]) or over an Ethernet connection (see Sections [0218] and [0221]). When the BSUs receiver power over the Ethernet connection, the Ethernet network includes a power line network.

Regarding claims 13 and 15, as explained in the previous rejection of claim 4, Beasley teaches all the limitations of the claim.

Referring to claim 16, Beasley discloses that each BSU includes a microprocessor with a memory (see Section [0056]) for storing instructions that, when executed by the microprocessor, results in (a) the BSU communicating data messages with MUs over a wireless channel (see Sections [0052], [0053], [0055], [0056], and [0061]) and (b) the BSU communicating control message with other BSUs to coordinate handoffs (i.e., an aspect of communication over the

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wireless channel) and receiving a common timing signal from the wireline network (see Sections [0051], [0063], [0116], [0117], [0215], [0218], [0221]-[0223], and [0228]-[0232]).

Regarding claim 17, as explained in the previous rejection of claim 5, Beasley teaches BSUs can transmit and receive a continuous synchronization signal over a power line (see Section [0215]) or over an Ethernet connection (see Sections [0218] and [0221]). When the BSUs receiver power over the Ethernet connection, the Ethernet network includes a power line network.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clara Yang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3062. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM - 7:30 PM, Monday - Thursday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on (571) 272-7308. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CY
9 May 2006



BRIAN ZIMMERMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER